

Bank Road
Pilning
South Glos
BS35 4JG

St Peter's Anglican / Methodist VC
Primary School
Head Teacher
Mr Rhys Buckley



“Unlocking our potential for life-long learning”

Tel: 01454 631137
E-mail: office@stpetersprimary.co.uk
Webpage: www.stpetersprimary.co.uk
Twitter: @StPetersPilning

Friday 23rd September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we have reached the end of the first term of this academic year, I wanted to write to you to show my appreciation for the support you have given our school during the last eight weeks. It's certainly been a term like no other before it, however once again our school community has come together and supported our pupils superbly in their safe return to school.

Speaking of our pupils, what stars they have been! For many of them, they came back in September following a six month break from being at school. For all of our pupils, they have returned to a school that looks and operates in a very different way to how it did prior to the pandemic. Despite this, they have returned in good spirits, made excellent progress in their learning and, most importantly, had fun while keeping themselves and their friends safe.

A special mention should also go to our new pupils in Reception class. This is a very strange time to begin your school journey, however they have blown us all away with how they've settled in and it already feels like they (and their families) have been a part of the St Peter's family for a long time!

None of the above would have been possible without the efforts of our wonderful staff team. Many aspects of their roles have changed over the last six months, however their dedication to ensuring their pupils receive a quality education and support has not wavered throughout. The work they have put in this term deserves our respect and admiration; I feel very fortunate to work with them all.

Below are some reminders of our new systems as well as some useful information regarding next term:

Drop-off/Collection Reminders

Our processes for drop-off and collection of pupils have continued to work well and have been highly commended by the local authority following a monitoring visit. Your co-operation in supporting these systems is very much appreciated by myself and the team. Please continue to keep in mind the following next term:

- In the morning, please do not arrive at the main gates until your eldest child's given start time
- If possible, walk or cycle to and from school; Bank Road is extremely busy as always and we must do all we can to keep it accessible to all

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- Do not come through the gates to line-up with your child/children until you have been called forward by a member of staff
- In the afternoon, please do not arrive at the main gates until your youngest child's given finish time
- **After drop-off and collection, please do not remain on-site or gather on Bank Road to talk;** we realise it's important to catch-up with friends, however our new systems depend on parents/carers spending as little time on-site as possible
- Please ensure your child comes to school with a coat & a water bottle that has their name on it
- On days that your child has PE, please ensure they come to school wearing their PE kit

I will be in touch with you all before term starts to recap these procedures.

Parents Evening

We will be holding Parents Evening for all year groups next term, with dates set to be confirmed during the half-term break. I apologise that we are unable to confirm these dates at this stage, we are currently looking into the most suitable software we can use to facilitate these meetings.

Appointments with class teachers will continue to be ten minutes long and will be held remotely, either via video call or telephone.

Class Information Meetings

In addition to Parents Evenings, each year group will be holding a 'Class Information Meeting' for parents to attend. These meetings will be hosted by myself and your child's class teacher on Zoom and will provide an opportunity for parents to find out about the learning that is planned for each class for the remainder this year as well as any other information that may be useful for you to know.

Communication with Staff

Unfortunately, the current situation dictates that staff cannot be available at the start or end of the day for conversations with parents. However, there are other means of communication that can be used in order to bridge this gap:

- Email or phone the school office requesting a call back from the class teacher and this can be arranged at a mutually convenient time. If preferable, video calls with staff can also be arranged
- Email or phone the school office with a message for a member of staff and this will be passed on by the office team

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If your child has any additional learning needs that you would like to discuss in detail, you should contact Mrs Margea, our SENCO, via the school office. Myself and Mr Hunt are also available via the office should you wish to speak to either of us regarding general concerns or queries.

Christmas Performances

For obvious reasons, it will not be possible for us to hold our Reception, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 Christmas productions as we normally would i.e. in the school hall or at St Peter's Church. However, each class will take part in a traditional Christmas performance that will be recorded and available for parents to view. More details regarding these productions will come to you next term.

INSETs

As previously communicated, Monday 2nd November is an INSET day where staff will be receiving training on our new 'Curious Curriculum' approach. Due to this, **the first day back for pupils next term will be Tuesday 3rd November.**

As previously communicated, **we are having to change the date one of our INSET days from Monday 7th June to Wednesday 21st July. Pupils will now need to attend school as normal on Monday 7th June.**

Finally, I'd like to wish you and your families a well-earned, restful and healthy half-term break. These are still worrying times for us all, however I can assure you that we will be continuing to do our utmost to ensure that St Peter's remains a safe, caring environment for your children to learn in despite the restrictions that are currently in place. I look forward to welcoming you all back to St Peter's on Tuesday 3rd November.

Best wishes,

Rhys Buckley
Head Teacher